

BRITISH DESTROY GERMAN VESSELS

Warships and Merchantmen Are Sunk in Conflict in the South Atlantic.

OTHER LOSSES REPORTED

Transport With Fifteen Hundred Marines Is Said to Have Been Sunk by Japanese—Kaiser Declared Recovering From Indisposition—German Advance in Poland Checked.

London, Dec. 12.—The Kaiser has suffered further losses at sea. The sinking of the German converted cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich, with 1,500 marines aboard, by a Japanese warship in South American waters is reported from Valparaiso, Chile.

The German armored cruiser Friedrich Karl has been sunk in the Baltic by a mine, according to an official statement of the French ministry of marine at Paris today. The sinking of the Friedrich Karl is said to have occurred two weeks ago and most of the crew of 557 officers and men are said to have been drowned.

The completion of the raid by an allied fleet on the German squadron off the Falkland islands in the south Atlantic a few days ago is reported in a dispatch from Montevideo, Uruguay, stating that the cruiser Dresden had taken refuge in the Argentine port of Santa Cruz in a badly battered condition. It is believed the Dresden will be interned there until after the war.

Nuernberg Fails to Escape.
London, Dec. 11.—The German cruiser Nuernberg which withdrew from the battle off the Falkland islands and attempted to make its escape with the cruiser Dresden while the British warships under Vice Admiral Sir Frederick Doveton Sturdee were destroying the cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Leipzig, was hunted across the water by units of the British fleet and sunk the same day.

The main action lasted five hours. The Scharnhorst sank after three hours and the Gneisenau two hours later.

No loss of any British vessel is reported.

British Squadron Heavy.
London, Dec. 11.—A dispatch from Buenos Aires conveys the information that the British squadron includes nine big warships, notably the battle cruisers Lion and Indefatigable. The admiralty declines to verify or deny that these great ships are in foreign waters.

German Cruisers Sunk.
London, Dec. 10.—Information received in London indicates that the destruction of the German fleet in the South Atlantic, with the sinking of three cruisers, was preceded by the sinking of three German merchant vessels.

This information comes from Buenos Aires. The message said a division of warships aggregating five ironclads and one transport, on the morning of December 6 sank one of the German vessels in the roadstead of Pictou Island. Two other steamers were sent to the bottom the same evening outside the harbor of Pantalón, near Cape Sanpio.

Reports on Naval Battle.
The fate of the merchantmen is not mentioned in the statement given out by the British admiralty, which said that the German cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Leipzig were sunk in a battle with the British fleet under Vice Admiral Sir Frederick Sturdee off the Falkland islands in the South Atlantic.

Admiral Von Spee Is Lost?
The official statement makes reference to some survivors rescued from the Gneisenau and the Leipzig, but no mention is made of any of the crew of the Scharnhorst, which was the flagship of the German admiral, being saved, and it is thus presumed that Count von Spee, his officers and men went down fighting.

As the Scharnhorst and Gneisenau each carried a complement of 765 men, the Leipzig 286, the Nuernberg 322, and the Dresden 281, the total German loss is estimated at not far from 2,000 men.

The British casualties were seven men killed and four wounded.

SAY KAISER IS IMPROVING

German Ruler, Who Has Been Seriously Indisposed, Reported to Be Much Better.

London, Dec. 12.—A dispatch to the Evening News from The Hague says: "According to information reaching here through private sources, Emperor William's condition today showed marked improvement. His temperature this morning was normal. His physicians allowed him to sit up for a few hours."

A message from Paris says the crown prince has been summoned to the bedside of the Kaiser, according to the Echo de Paris.

Illness Held Serious.
Rome, Dec. 12.—A report received from Berlin says no one is allowed to enter the sick room of the Kaiser and that all war news is withheld from the emperor, who is extremely nervous and restless. His illness, this message adds, is more serious than

the official bulletin would lead the people to believe.

CHECK ADVANCE, IS CLAIM

Russian Advances Are That Forward Movement of the Kaiser's Forces Has Been Stopped.

London, Dec. 12.—Of the five Austro-German columns which for some days appeared to be making steady progress in their invasion of Poland, three have suffered checks, according to tonight's official report from Russian headquarters.

The column which was making a downward stroke from Mlaw, on the East Prussian frontier, and which was reported in one dispatch from Petrograd today to be within fifteen miles of Warsaw, was repulsed after an energetic offensive, and under counter-attacks from the Russians was compelled to retire at some points.

The attacks of the main German column, which had its front on the line between Lodz and Lovicz, and which came down diagonally from Thorn, were delivered with great force, but, according to the Russian account, were repulsed with heavy losses to the invaders.

The Germans attach the utmost importance, it is said, to securing a decisive result in the east before the Russians are able to make their numbers, which military men believe must already be superior, so overwhelming that the better means of transportation possessed by the Germans will be discounted.

German Official Statement.
Berlin, Dec. 12.—The German army headquarters staff today issued the following communication:

"There is no change in the situation in the east of Mazurian lakes in East Prussia. Our attacks in northern Poland are progressing. No news is at hand from southern Poland."

The latest reports from the fighting zone around Lodz, according to information given out by the German official press bureau today, show that the resistance of the Russians in that region is by no means broken. The new Russian positions on Mazga cut are only twelve or thirteen miles to the eastward of Lodz, which demonstrates, it is said, that much yet remains to be done before the Russians can be considered definitely defeated.

Allies Hold Trenches.

London, Dec. 12.—That the Germans are determined to cut through the allies' lines in West Flanders, if such a thing is possible, was demonstrated again today when the forces in the vicinity of Ypres made a violent and continued attack, only to be repulsed with heavy losses.

A dispatch from Berlin signed by the chief of the army administration insists that the Germans have made progress in Flanders, but there is no inkling of the point where this advance was made.

It also is asserted that French attacks in the forest of Le Prete and to the west of Ponta-Mousson were repulsed.

Attack Harbor of Dover.

Dover, England, Dec. 11.—The city of Dover was thrown into excitement today by the announcement that the Germans early this morning attempted a submarine attack on the harbor works and the fleet at anchor in the harbor.

A heavy rain and haze made searchlight work difficult. At six thirty o'clock the observers sighted what they believed to be a fleet of about six submarines several miles out in the channel.

The channel forts commenced firing in the direction of the supposed submarines and kept it up for almost half an hour. At the same time a torpedo boat destroyer flotilla put to sea, where it remained all day.

Sees Italy Joining War.

Rome, Dec. 12.—Signor Canepa, a member of the chamber, has announced that he desires to withdraw his request that the government join with the United States in a protest against Germany's violations of the agreements of The Hague conferences. Signor Canepa said significantly that he hoped action by Italy was imminent and hence a protest by this country at the present time would be useless.

Decline Christmas Truce.

Berlin, Dec. 12.—The proposal of Pope Benedict for a truce among the warring nations during the Christmas holidays is said by the official press bureau today to have been declined by Russia.

The German press bureau had announced that Germany was willing to agree to a Christmas truce, provided the other nations at war gave their assent.

Press Austrians Hard.

Rome, Dec. 12.—The Serbian legation announces that the Austrians have been driven back on Shabatz and are being hard pressed by the Serbians, who are attacking toward Belgrade. The Austrian prisoners of war in Serbia number 300 officers and 30,000 men.

Roumania's Position.

Berlin, Dec. 12 (by wireless).—"Word has arrived from Bucharest that Prime Minister Bratiano of Roumania has rejected the demand of the triple entente that Roumania attack Bulgaria if Bulgaria should prevent Greece from going to the assistance of Serbia."

FOR THE BUSY MAN

NEWS EPITOME THAT CAN SOON BE COMPASSED.

MANY EVENTS ARE MENTIONED

Some and Foreign Intelligence Condensed into Two and Four Line Paragraphs.

WASHINGTON.

Representatives of state banks suggested to the Federal Reserve board that banking laws be modified, that state institutions might enter and leave the system at will.

More than \$53,000,000 is estimated for improvements and maintenance of the nation's waterways and harbors during the fiscal year of 1916, which begins July 1, 1915.

A bill to require all Chinese now in the United States to obtain within one year certificates of residence, as a measure against Chinese smuggling, was introduced by Senator Lodge.

Estimates furnished to congress by Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo for government expenses in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1915, total \$1,090,775,134, about \$4,000,000 less than in the present fiscal year.

John H. Fahey, president of the chamber of commerce of the United States, asked President Wilson to support an amendment to the Sherman law to permit American exporters to band together to meet foreign competition.

President Wilson is to have the new trade commission begin its work as soon as possible and plans to send the nomination of its members to the senate in the near future. He has a long list of names.

Legislation to regulate issues of railroad securities, which passed the house last session and was reported on by the senate shortly before adjournment, may not be pressed for final passage at this session of congress.

The National Rivers and Harbors congress adjourned after adopting resolutions favoring the building of a comprehensive system of water transportation at an annual expenditure by the government of not less than \$50,000,000.

DOMESTIC.

Fire destroyed virtually the entire main plant of the Edison company at West Orange, New Jersey, causing damage estimated at nearly \$7,000,000.

Addition of an aviation corps to the Colorado militia is being planned. A hangar will be erected on the Golden rifle range. Several aviators have signified their willingness to join the militia.

Acceptance of Christmas presents by the officials of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad was placed under a ban by an order issued by President Ripley of that road at Chicago.

More than 1,000 churches in New York City have combined forces to help meet the problems of the unemployed during the winter. The movement was inaugurated by the New York Federation of Churches.

Industrial railroads in the Chicago switching district were held by the Illinois Public Utilities commission to be common carriers and entitled to receive allowances and participate in trunk line rates in interstate transportation.

Eugene F. Schmitz, three times mayor of San Francisco and removed from office in 1907 while San Francisco's graft prosecution was in progress, has announced that he would be a candidate for a fourth term as mayor in 1915.

President Wilson was asked by a committee of 100 Indians, representing the Society of American Indians, to appoint a commission to investigate the condition of American Indians and recommend the passage of a code of Indian law, "which shall open the door of hope and progress to our people."

The Hitchcock resolution for immediate hearing on the Philippine bill has passed the senate. Former residents of the islands will be questioned regarding greater self-government for the Philippines.

The bill to restrict uses of habit-forming drugs was passed in the house. It compels registry with the internal revenue bureau of all physicians, manufacturers and dealers who handle opium or its derivatives, and similar drugs, and prescribes forms for written orders for certain drugs.

Miss Agnew Irwin, formerly dean of Radcliffe college, Cambridge, Mass., died at Philadelphia. She had been ill with pneumonia five days. Miss Irwin was a great great granddaughter of Benjamin Franklin.

President Wilson has promoted Brigadier General Frederick Funston to a major generalship.

President Wilson was asked again to endorse a constitutional amendment for woman suffrage, and reiterated that the question was one for the states.

The West Virginia "blue sky" law was held unconstitutional by the United States circuit court of appeals in a decision handed down at Parkersburg.

Dr. Samuel P. Church, said to be the oldest graduate of Trinity college and also the oldest member of the Alpha Delta Phi fraternity, died at his home at Ithaca, N. Y.

Six thousand persons crowded the armory at Cleveland at the public reception given in honor of the home coming of Myron T. Herrick, former ambassador to France.

Clefante Campanini, director of the Chicago Grand Opera company, filed suit at Chicago for \$50,000 damages against Abraham Nussbaum, who has been connected with the company.

Government by commission, and what he described as illegal interference by federal officials with private business, were denounced at Chicago by Senator Weeks of Massachusetts.

Ella Flagg Young, superintendent of the Chicago schools, whose salary of \$10,000 a year marks her among the highest salaried women of the country, was re-elected by a vote of 15 to 6.

Three hundred persons, who attended a chicken supper at a church at Batavia, N. Y., are under physicians' care. It is believed all will recover. Their ailment was said to be ptomaine poisoning.

Ten thousand employees of the Crane company in Chicago will share in a \$650,000 Christmas gift this year as a partial recompense for the shrinkage in wages that resulted from lost time during last year.

Libraries of twenty-eight leading colleges and universities of the United States own 7,309,669 books, according to figures just collected by the University of Minnesota library and made public at Chicago by George R. Utley, secretary of the American library association.

To voice a protest against agitation for increased armaments in this country, a committee comprising Bishop David H. Greer of the New York diocese of the Protestant Episcopal church, and a score of others, will meet in New York, December 18, to organize a national anti-armament association.

Advancing of American industry must depend in an increasing measure on a proper system of industrial education, declared Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, at the annual convention of the National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education at Richmond.

FOREIGN.

Four hundred thousand youths of 19 and 20 years, forming the class of 1915, have gone into training in military instruction camps and barracks throughout France.

The Japanese foreign minister, Baron Kato, announces that it has not been decided whether Japan would return the captured German base at Kiaochow to China.

The report that Gen. Christian Beyers, the rebel leader in South Africa, had met death by the Union forces, is confirmed by the finding of his body in the Vaal river.

An arbitration treaty between Great Britain and Portugal has been signed in London. The treaty, which is for a period of five years, is of great significance at the present moment.

With the return of the French government to Paris from Bordeaux a squadron of aeroplanes is doing scout duty over the capital to ward off possible attacks by hostile air craft.

Vice Admiral Sturdee of the British squadron reports that in the battle off the Falkland islands in which three German cruisers were sunk, the British casualties totaled seven men killed and four wounded.

The ledger of the national debt of France, containing the names of the holders of bonds which are insured as distinguished from those payable to bearer, has been brought to Paris again from Bordeaux. It required ten cars to transport the ledger.

Pope Benedict is urging that an understanding be arranged between the warring factions under which a truce will be possible during the Christmas holidays. It is said, however, that the pope has little hope for the success of his efforts.

A British squadron under Vice Admiral Sir Frederick Sturdee, has sent to the bottom off the southern coast of South America, the German cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Leipzig.

NACO WOMAN SHOT

ANOTHER AMERICAN HIT BY MEXICAN BULLET.

TWO OTHER PERSONS WOUNDED

Jose Martinez, Husband of the Injured Woman, and F. H. Kuck Struck by Shrapnel.

Naco, Ariz.—Mexican "stray" fire added the fifty-second name to the casualty list on the American side when Mrs. Jose Martinez was hit in the back by a bullet in the siege of Naco, Sonora, which crossed the border and pierced the wall of her home.

The siege continues across the border with its accompanying shower of Mexican shot and shell. Two other persons, Jose Martinez, husband of the wounded woman, and F. H. Kuck, were hit by pieces of shrapnel.

Kuck's leg was bruised. Martinez was slightly hurt. They made a total of five persons struck by spent ammunition, but not included in the list of fifty-two.

The reported order from Provisional President Gutierrez for Governor Mayteena, the Villa commander besieging Hill's Carranza troops in Mexican Naco, to cease his attacks if they endanger Americans is still reported "not received."

The reinforced border patrol under command of Brigadier General Tasker Bliss continued its preparations for possible action.

Regrets Troubles.

Mexico City.—The situation at Naco, Sonora, on the international border, was commented on by Provisional President Gutierrez in an interview given to the Associated Press. He said:

"I sincerely regret the troubles which have occurred along the northern border in which Americans have been killed. I have ordered the absolute cessation of hostilities in the neighborhood of Naco, and I will proceed in a like manner should fighting occur at any other points on the border, even if such an order should jeopardize our cause. I realize that at any cost we must retain the friendship of Americans."

One Killed and 25 Hurt.

Northfield, Minn.—One person was killed and more than twenty-five injured, eight seriously, when Rock Island passenger train No. 53 was wrecked eight miles south of here and five cars rolled down a fifteen foot embankment. A broke rail is said to have caused the accident.

Unneutral Ships Near Canal.

Panama.—Colonel George W. Goethals, governor of the canal zone, was impelled to suggest to the government at Washington that two swift American torpedo boat destroyers be stationed at the Panama canal, one at each end, by the recent activity of belligerent warships and colliers in the vicinity of the Isthmian waterway.

Christians in Peril.

London.—A Petrograd dispatch to the Times says:

"Advices from the front at Erzerum, Turkish Armenia, describes the position of 20,000 Christians there as precarious, because of their Russian sympathies. Three hundred thousand Turkish troops are mobilizing at Erzerum."

"Hundreds of Armenians have been imprisoned and many hanged in the streets without trial as examples. Nevertheless, remarkable anti-war demonstrations have been held in Erzerum, on one occasion the rioting lasting several hours."

Raising War Lien.

Amsterdam.—A Berlin dispatch says that Brussels and suburbs have decided to pay the war lien of 45,000,000 marks (\$11,250,000) imposed by Germany by means of special taxes payable up to June 15, 1915. For the payment of the remaining 25,000,000 marks (\$6,250,000) of the first war contribution, arrangements have been reached with a group of Belgian banks whereby this obligation will be met in ten installments.

Kaisers Health Improved.

Amsterdam.—Emperor William has made so much progress toward recovering his health telegrams received here from Berlin state, that he will be able to leave the capital this week for the battle front.

Approves Dismissal of Officer.

Washington.—President Wilson has approved the sentence of dismissal from the army imposed upon Lieutenant John K. Hume, Fifth cavalry, convicted by general court martial at Trinidad, Colo., of violating his pledge to abstain from intoxicating liquors.

Bibles for Soldiers.

Pittsburgh, Pa.—Officers of the International and the World's Sunday School associations here have made plans which they say will result in placing bibles with soldiers at war.

CONDENSED NEWS

OF INTEREST TO ALL.

Fire at North Bend did damage of \$300 to the opera house.

George North is the new proprietor of the hotel at North Loup.

Citizens of Lyons are making preparations for a winter stock show.

The Odd Fellows have dedicated their new building at Ainsworth.

Work has commenced on the new \$15,000 Catholic church at Burwell.

R. E. Clark has purchased the Looney restaurant at Crab Orchard.

H. C. Waters has leased the Cairo Record and will take charge at once.

Fire in the upper part of the Dunbar school house caused small loss. Springview is preparing for the installation of a new electric light plant.

Miss Nattie Mines has purchased the Giles Millinery company of North Bend.

James Pesek, a farmer living south of Ravenna, was seriously hurt in a runaway.

A state organization for Belgian relief is being planned by Lincoln citizens.

V. L. Hanson of Harrison, has disposed of his drug store to Dick Richards of Crawford.

Steward Gutzmer and six inmates of the state hospital for the insane at Norfolk have smallpox.

Fred S. Hessler, one of the oldest newspaper men in the state, died at his home in Falls City.

Henry Kuper of Humboldt, sold forty-two head of Shorthorn cattle that averaged \$151 each.

Burglars secured \$15 in money and some goods at the Jacob Goehring hardware store at Seward.

Four persons were seriously injured when a motor car was struck by a train near Plattsmouth.

The Farmers' Grain and Supply Co. of Scotia, has filed articles of incorporation with a capital of \$10,000.

Laura A. Forrest was granted a verdict of \$2,700 against three Norfolk saloonkeepers and other bondsmen.

The annual show of the Dodge County Poultry association at Fremont had over twelve hundred entries.

Dr. Arthur Snell of Norfolk was perhaps fatally injured when the motor car in which he was riding overturned.

Appeal of the dollar gas case to the United States supreme court has been ordered by the city council of Omaha.

Eleven Mexican laborers employed on a railroad at Fairbury are under arrest following the theft of a quantity of silk.

November was the driest month in the history of Nebraska according to the report just turned in by the weather bureau.

More than 200 motor car owners at Fremont are delinquent in the matter of paying the annual state license fee for the past year.

Arrangements are being made by a union of all the churches of Minden to hold a union or municipal Christmas tree in the auditorium.

Two hundred members of the North Platte High school nearly went on a strike because they were denied the privilege of attending a play.

M. B. Russell and Harry Craig are preparing to issue a weekly newspaper at Seward. Three weekly papers are now in the field.

The Lexington Mill and Elevator company have let the contract to build a five-story reinforced concrete mill which is to be fireproof.

Chester Lodge, high school student at Columbus, was seriously injured when a bicycle he was riding threw him onto the side of a bridge.

S. W. Perin, who has served the university college of agriculture at Lincoln for more years than any other man is to return to that institution.

More chickens were raised in Lancaster county during the past year than any other county in the state, according to the statistics of the assessor.

School teachers of O'Neill, Atkinson, Stuart, Newport, Bassett, Long Pine, Wood Lake and Valentine will meet in Ainsworth January 16 and 17 to form an organization.

After a four days' search for further evidence the North Platte authorities have given up hope of recovering the body of Vernon Connett, the young farmer murdered in August.

Roasting ears in the winter time is the result of an interesting experiment conducted by Food Commissioner Harman and A. E. Wilkinson of the Beatrice Creamery company of Lincoln.

Hastings club women responded to an appeal from the Nebraska children home finding society by promising to find Hastings homes for twelve or more Belgian children expected in Nebraska from their stricken native land.

The officials of Box Butte county are moving into the new court house which is practically completed. The building will be dedicated December 28.

The Dodge county automobile association has disbanded and the Fremont automobile club has been organized. The new organization is beginning to improve route markings.

A restaurant at Omaha was held up in broad daylight by a lone bandit who secured \$65. When captured he gave his name as Henry Honour and said he had been unable to find work and became desperate.